

SOUTH BEND NEWS-TIMES

Morning—Evening—Sunday.

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APRIL 26, 1916.

WOMEN'S LAW CLASSES.

Forty women received certificates at New York university the other night upon the completion of the work of the "Woman's Law Class." This does not mean that these 40 women are now lawyers or expect to be. They are business women who felt the need of some sort of general knowledge of law and legal forms and observances in the conduct of their own business affairs.

The class is given by two women lawyers under the auspices of the Woman's Legal Education society and is designed to give business women a knowledge of business law.

This is a move that might well be emulated in any city, town or village the country over. No longer do doctors hold their knowledge as esoteric. They come out in public with lectures, newspaper courses and magazine articles on subjects of hygiene and preventive medicine, aimed not so much to cure disease as to keep people well. This also the lawyers may well do. And women particularly need this sort of preventive legal knowledge. Nor is its usefulness confined to business women. Every woman needs to know what are her normal rights and responsibilities under the law of her state and country.

She needs to know about simple mortgages and notes and land transactions, how to draw her will, how to protect her children.

The formation of women's law classes is a matter which might well attract the attention of women's clubs.

PLENTY OF OPPORTUNITY.

The South Bend man who wrote a Washington official urging war with Germany and Mexico and offering the services of his two sons in putting over the fight, received an answer very appropriate to such anxious ones. It was that there are some 11,000 vacancies in the regular army without war, and that if the boys are determined upon army life, they might cut it down a couple—to which there has been no response. Indeed, yes, there is plenty of opportunity for embryo warriors to get into training if they must enlist. Bills pending in congress promise an enlargement of that opportunity to even greater proportions.

The senate bill for the reorganization of the army, passed without even a roll call, is a measure which admirably fits the present need of the country. It is to be hoped that its good features will not be sacrificed in conference. The house bill is inadequate in the light of our submarine crisis. The house can well afford, in this emergency, to yield to the senate.

The bill which passed the house provides for a regular army of 140,000 men, instead of 100,000 as at present. The senate bill provides for 250,000. It has been objected that this number is too large for peace and too small for war. It must be remembered, however, that the 250,000 is fixed as the maximum which, in normal times, would never be reached. Even today our army is not recruited up to its permissible 100,000. The essential thing is to have the organization. With the necessary regiments organized and officered, the actual size of the army may be only half of the 250,000, but when necessary it can be brought to its full theoretical strength by mustering in the requisite number of recruits. Thus it need not be a menace or burden in time of peace, and in time of war it will be the foundation of an adequate military force.

Another essential difference concerns the federal volunteer army. The house bill eliminated this proposal entirely. The senate bill establishes such a reserve system which, when in full operation, would afford a total available strength of nearly 500,000 men—of course, in the national guard, about 1,000,000 men. The guardsmen have fought the federal volunteer force as a dangerous rival to their own organization. There is no necessary antagonism. The federal reserve is intended to enlist large numbers of citizens who would not be likely to join the guard because of its greater demands, but who would be willing to go into training for short periods every year. Such a force has the great advantage of being subject to call at any time for national purposes without the possibility of a conflict of federal and state authority. At the same time, the senate bill provides for the federalization of the national guard as far as possible.

The senate measure commands respect as a pledge of the nation's purpose to strengthen its army and give effect to its words. It can be made a powerful diplomatic weapon. If enacted into law at once, it will prove to Germany that our government means what it says. The German government understands no argument but force. If congress creates a military force of 1,000,000 men, there will be no more talk of "American bluff." We shall have called Germany's bluff. And in that seems to be the only hope of obtaining our rights, enforcing international law even though it may not insure peace.

Besides, those South Bend boys, whose father is so anxious to get them into a fight, can take along a number of their friends, and there will still be room for others.

PRESERVING OUR PEACE.

We have remarked before, and are at it again, that the fate of our relations with Germany are very largely in the hands of German-American citizens. By acting as mediators between the two nations, they might enable Germany and America to understand each other, and find a common ground for the adjustment of their differences.

The use made of that opportunity so far seems to have been very one-sided. German-American leaders, in general, seem to have contented themselves with pleading Germany's cause before the American public, neglecting to explain the American viewpoint to the German public.

The New York World points out that our German citizens now have a rare chance to perform such a service to their country, if they will avail themselves of it. The suggestion was called forth by action being taken through the columns of the New York Herald, soliciting signatures for the following petition, to be presented to the members of congress:

"The undersigned, an American citizen not of German descent, is of the opinion that the submarine issue should not lead to a war with Germany. You are therefore respectfully requested to do your utmost to prevent any action by congress which would result in America being drawn into the European catastrophe."

As the World remarks, "our German friends are taking their case to the wrong court." Congress is just as desirous as the promoters of this petition that "the submarine issue should not lead to war with Germany." But congress does not control the matter. Congress has not authority over the German submarine campaign. The only action that congress can take in the matter is to perform its constitutional function of declaring war, if such a lamentable step is made inevitable by German aggression.

Congress cannot prevent war. Germany can. The World adds:

"Let our German friends send their petitions not to congress, but to the German ambassador in Washington. Let them warn Count Bernstorff that if war results from Germany's violations of faith, every American of German blood and German birth will be unswerving in his allegiance to the United States. Once the imperial government is made to understand that it need expect no aid and comfort from German-Americans, that these German-Americans will stand shoulder to shoulder with all other Americans in defense of Americans rights and honor, there will be little danger of war."

If German-Americans will perform this service, they will win the deep gratitude of their fellow-citizens, and will incidentally do Germany herself a true kindness.

HOLLAND'S "YELLOW PERIL."

For the peace of mind of those "fearfuls" that Japan is coming right over to lick us; of those who, turned green with fright, when the Chicago papers, a few days ago, "yellowized" the mikado's protest to certain features of the immigration bill pending in congress, into a "crisis,"—for the peace of mind of such "fearfuls" as these, we say, Holland is also in the throes of a "yellow peril" scare, and they need not be lonesome.

An audacious Japanese statesman, one Yusaburo Takekoshi, former minister of education, discusses the occupation of the Dutch East Indian islands of Java and Sumatra in an uncomfortably outspoken manner. He argues that it is a menace to Japan to have such weakly defended countries as Java and Sumatra in its locality, since they would be unable to maintain their neutrality in case of war. Therefore, he adds, "Japan should occupy the islands, in the first place, from a purely strategical standpoint."

Japan possesses the same virtue as the rattlesnake. It sounds the alarm before it strikes. Yet, like that deadly serpent, it doesn't tarry long after rattling. Holland has a scare coming to it, by every right. Maintaining its neutrality in Europe has brought the inevitable sequel; the alienation of its erstwhile powerful friends so successfully that henceforth it must do its own fighting.

If Japan should take a notion to "occupy" Java and Sumatra, Holland would be helpless to prevent it, which leads to the conclusion that Holland might do well to put its rich little island possessions on the bargain counter while the bargaining is still good.

PROPERTY AND COLOR.

The attempts of St. Louis and Louisville, Ky., to segregate their Negro population have run up against a legal snag. The St. Louis ordinance, adopted a few weeks ago in a popular referendum, provides that no white man or Negro may occupy property in a city block where 75 per cent or more of the residents are of the other race. A temporary injunction against the enforcement of the measure has been granted. Judge Dyer, in granting the injunction, explained as follows:

"The question of police power raised by the attorney for the city is sharply drawn, but I believe that these ordinances exceed the police powers. A man has a right to occupy property that he owns under the laws of the United States and the constitution."

The right of any citizen to acquire and own property, regardless of his color, has never been questioned. And if, as the court says, and as common sense corroborates, the ownership of real estate implies the right to occupy it, municipalities that want to keep Negroes out of white residence districts will have to find some other way to do it. A case based on the Louisville ordinance is now pending in the United States supreme court, and its decision will settle the matter for good.

TREAT IT TENDERLY.

The United States senate had better be careful or it is going to insult the United States supreme court. Sen. Martine's resolution to investigate gasoline prices boldly names the Standard Oil Co. as "a trust" and, according to that supreme court, the Standard isn't "a trust" but "a dissolution."

We agree with certain senators in that it would be highly improper for the senate to formally throw dirt at a creature so thoroughly the supreme court's as that "dissolution." The "dissolution" was altogether an originality, stired by the U. S. supreme court and damned by everybody, and, as a new breed of economic fiddling, it should have the most respectful treatment by our legislators.

Mrs. Emmeline Pankhurst sits in the Canadian house of commons, the first time the honor was ever accorded a woman not connected with royalty. John Bull making eyes at the kuffs, that's all.

"Carranza's power is on the wane," says a headline. Not much chance, that is, unless its gone to—

The Melting Pot

Filled by the Editorial Staff.

NOT TODAY.

Ordinarily
When a man
Writes a column,
He starts with a poem,
One that's snappy,
To the point,
Clever
And bright,
But he really
Does not
Have to do it.

WHY

Doesn't some vaudeville performer while going through with his act say:

"That boy is certainly clever?"
Of a dame who is fat and 40, remark:
"Isn't she graceful?"

Or the same dame, same age and same size remark:
"I may not be beautiful but I am getting the money?"

Well everything is ready for the Central league season opening to-day. The ball players got their hair cuts yesterday.

The morning was clear,
The sun shone bright,
It rained in the p. m.
It was dark as night.

Ever Hammer is a prize fighter and should be good on the pounding end of the game.

One really can't blame Germany for her attempt to retain friendly relations, for friendly relations are few and far between.

Military experts admit that Germany will be able to take Verdun if they are willing to pay the price. This is old logic for every man of a family knows he can move any place he wants to if he will pay the price.

Diplomacy seems to be a practice of becoming expert in discovering when the other fellow is down and belting him one. Japan for instance kept quiet until the U. S. got into controversies with Germany and Mexico.

Meester Villa's gone and died, Whiskers Carranza cried,
But Villa telegraphs his wife,
"I've come back to life."

The guy who started this dope about being in at the finish, the hardest part was all wrong. It's getting started that keeps the bums a burning.

THINGS

Even a man will read on a rainy Sunday afternoon.

Skirts that do not drag on the ground are sensible and sanitary. But is there any necessity for raising them so far above the shoe tops that rude observers stop in their tracks to gaze upon an exposure and make comments upon the dimensions and lines of the contents?

As for exercise, I never walked where I could ride. Climbing stairs left me short of breath and gasping. My flesh increased; it grew and grew until my friends who had known me as a slender girl said in pitying tones: "What a shame; she looks 15 years older than her age."

Mary bought an Easter hat. And it was some creation. But when it started raining. She was filled with consternation.

The king is better. Ty Cobb will be back in harness soon.

Apparently somebody made a mistake when that bomb came near hitting the czar. That is unless the czar actually got to the front of the front instead of the rear of the front.

"A Pair of Queens Liked at Opening," says Chicago paper. Well it's certainly Jacks or better.

One thing can be said in favor of these short skirts. The men no longer hang around the corners on rainy days. They don't need to.

WANTED HORSES KILLED. Permitting horses to be killed on railroad crossings to collect damages from the companies was charged against Fred Huff, who brought suit against the Erie railroad at Hammond. Huff had four horses killed by railroad trains in eight months.

ADAM CROOK SEZ. Speaking of preparedness we see a barber going down street the other day with a cross cut saw underneath his arm. Somebody told us yesterday when it was raining that he seen the News-Times had sacked all its newsboys.

VERY LIKELY. Remonstrances against the saloon are being circulated here in Aub. twp. It is doubtful if enough signers can be secured as the main complaint is that there have been several bootlegging camps allowed to flourish and have not been molested. Cannot evidence be gotten to indict men illegally selling liquor or do they all wait for the other fellow to get the evidence? Some bitter feeling usually is stirred up over a deal like the present case.—Delong correspondence to Rochester Sentinel.

AN IMPORTANT ONE. "Thompson has made a discovery," "indeed."
"Yes," he says that he has discovered that the more buttons there are on a woman's coat the greater the probability that it really fastens with hooks and eyes.—Puck.

WE GET YOU, MADAM. Mrs. Kawler—Did you ever go to one of those astrologers?
Mrs. Blunderby—No; but my daughter Kate is just crazy to have her periscope read.

With Other Editors Than Ours

INVASION MERELY A WOLF CRY

(The New Republic.)

Those who are for preparedness are making their popular appeal on the theory that the territory of the United States is about to be invaded by the Germans and the Japanese. See for example "The Battle Cry of Peace," any magazine serial on the conquest of America, or the names of the armament societies—National Security league, the method is that of the famous play, "An Englishman's Home," which had so great an effect in scaring the British public. Had it been a really prophetic play, had it shown the need of sending millions of Englishmen to Plandera or Gallipoli or Saloniki, it would have been flat—the agitators would not dare to tell the people the exact truth. So with us.

No doubt most of the propagandists sincerely believe in the theory of invasion, but the really informed students of the question have a totally different picture in their minds. When they speak about the defense of America, they mean the defense of American rights at sea, of American interests in China, of American policies about Latin America. They do not imagine that we are to be invaded in order to take away our gold, or put a ransom on our cities. They know that if we are committed to a first class war it will be because we have quarreled with some great power about some American right or ambition in some territory not within the boundaries of the United States. The invasion, if it happens, would be the outcome of that sort of quarrel. But in order to secure increased armament the agitation is concentrated on the possibility of invasion, not on the desirability or justice of a conflict in Latin America or China.

GASOLINE AGAIN.

(Peoria Journal.)

When we were first told that the war had batted up the price of gasoline, we accepted the sad tidings meekly, because the war had boosted the price of everything else—why not gasoline?

But after the price of gasoline had advanced 60 per cent, the big oil corporations had to find some other excuse, so they told the consumers that the supply of crude oil was diminishing.

This claim that there is an oil famine is absolutely false. It has been exposed in the reports of the geologic survey, in the reports of the federal trade commission, and by Sec'y Lane, who said in his report to the United States senate that 15 per cent of the production

STATSMEN GREAT AND NEAR-GREAT

By Fred Kelly.

WASHINGTON, April 25.—If the truth were known, Oscar Underwood, former house leader, feels uncomfortable and ill at ease over in the United States senate, which is a much less human body than the house.

"In the house," lamented Underwood one day, at the close of a tiresome, futile senate session, "we would debate a thing and then put it to a vote. Here we debate a question, then lay it aside, and do not vote on it until the ice goes out the following spring, when everybody said in the debate has been thoroughly forgot."

Here, by the way, may be the explanation for the fact that Sen. Underwood is our most calm and most self-contained statesman, never once raising his voice in the heat of debate, or exhibiting the slightest indication of temper.

He is a pulse beat of only \$5. If anything occurs to make him mad and quicken his pulse, he has that margin of four beats below normal before the blood begins to rush to his brain.

You remember when you were a youngster and played school, and how everybody wanted his or her turn at being the teacher? And how vexed you became if one boy sat up in front with a ruler in his hand and kept on playing the teacher after somebody else was entitled to his turn?

That is precisely the way a lot of republican members of congress are getting to feel toward Mr. Jim Mann, the minority leader. They are certain that when he was a boy and played school he wanted to be the teacher all the time.

Mann takes personal charge of practically every bill that comes up. On the democratic side each bill is ordinarily in charge of the chairman of the committee that prepared it. Republican committee chairmen stand around glaring at Mann, as much as to say:

"When are you going to let us play?"

But Mann tells them substantially to go soak their heads.

And so there is a growing sense of peevishness among Mann's followers.

Sam Blythe had occasion a while ago to obtain an audience with John D. Rockefeller. He began, after he had been ushered into the office of the richest man, "I'm representing the Saturday Evening Post."

"Ah, yes," observed Rockefeller, benevolently. "I've heard of that magazine. I think. Yes, I'm sure I've heard of it."

"Well," suggested Blythe, "I'll tell you what I'll do; I'll make it fifty-fifty with you and say that I've heard tell of the Rockefeller family."

of crude oil in 1915 was in storage at the end of the year.

What actually has happened to gasoline prices was caused—but only indirectly—by the war.

The war shut off the foreign demand for kerosene. It cut off the oil corporations profits from this foreign trade. And therefore, in order to maintain its dividends the oil trust now proceeds to pluck gasoline consumers!

And note that while gasoline oil companies have in some instances have gone up 60 per cent, the stances have been paying 60 per cent dividends!

One 50 per cent dividend was declared by the Standard Oil Co. of California. From the Philadelphia North American we clip this: "Dividing profits that have been accumulated for several years, directors of the Pure Oil Co., with headquarters in the Lafayette building, this city, have declared in addition to the regular dividend of six per cent an extra cash dividend of 50 per cent. The 50 per cent dividends amount to \$2,539,737."

Consider, also, the remarkable dividend declarations of the Standard oil group for the last quarter of 1915, which reached the astonishing total of \$3,178,850.

Someone suggests that we skim the Caribbean sea for gasoline—they are it seems unmeasurable quantities of oil in the islands of that sea.

Such a freak notion has its place—it reminds the public that before it becomes necessary to skim the oil from the seven seas, it might be just as well to get Uncle Sam to manage our oil and refining business for us, right at home.

THE WORLD ON SKATES.

(Washington Post.)

Several large corporations propose to expedite their work by equipping their office boy force with 500 pairs of roller skates.

It will be observed that pairs have been ordered, and no single skates. Ask any newsboy on the streets why he uses one skate only, and he'll tell you that it is because he can go faster that way. This, clearly, is reason enough why the average office boy will insist upon a pair.

But, seriously considered, why shouldn't the practice become universal. The roller skate craze saw its birth, its height and its decadence. Ice skating has been the popular fad for some months, with small signs of diminution in favor. Should roller skates come into their own again, it would be this time with a view to utility as well as pleasure.

The roving scientist of one of Fenimore Cooper's novels had the one fault to find with nature that it hadn't put man on wheels instead of making him that foolish biped without feathers, against which Tom Carlyle inveighed in scorching terms. But where nature errs the ingenuity of man can make amends.

It has long been acknowledged that skating is the perfection of bodily exercise. Poised on a point, every muscle of the body is brought into play, the result being that harmonious development which art so often skillfully stimulates, but which is as rare in nature as a white blackbird. Leaving out of consideration the space-unfolding advantages, the acquiring anew of a chaste figure should appeal to the many who deny the reproach of stoutness, but reluctantly confess a growing tendency to embonpoint.

This is the age of efficiency, as even the loafer at the corner grocery will spend hours of his most valuable time in demonstrating. If skates will serve to bring about the desired consummation, an element of the absurd, no lasting harm is done seeing that there are so many other things to think about which it were well to forget if only for the moment.

TURKEY'S NINE LIVES.

(Peoria Star.)

By some process, due very largely, it is said, to the aid of Germany, the Turkish nation has again experienced a revival of life and energy and we are now informed that 90 battalions of troops have been rushed to the aid of the forces which have been so sadly harassed by the Russians in Armenia. But although the troops have been furnished, the means for feeding them have not. The Turks have made repeated efforts to ship supplies to the city of Trebizond via the Black sea, but the vigilance of Russian submarines and torpedo boat destroyers has prevented their destination. More than 100 vessels laden with food and supplies for the Turks in Armenia have been sunk and destroyed by the Russians in the past few months. The lack of railway facilities in Armenia has been another source of annoyance to the Turkish army. However, the fact that they have been able to raise more troops and equip them even with German aid is an astonishing thing because of the fact that Constantinople is in a state of almost total anarchy and so present Turkish prisons are filled to overflowing with citizens who have dared to voice their opposition. Thousands of people, not only in Armenia, but in other portions of Turkey are facing starvation. Enver Pasha, the man who precipitated Turkey into the war, has been slain by an assassin, and yet "the sick man of Europe" is still able to maintain a national entity and to present some show of armed resistance to the foe. It is but another illustration of the extraordinary Turkish character.

The Butte Miner says that the explosion of two sticks of dynamite in a barber shop in that city awakened the proprietor who was sleeping in the shop. Some mighty strange things happen in Butte.—Billings, Mont., Gazette.



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